

Pie Corbett's Reading Spine

The picture books in Year 1 offer deeper exploration of emotions and wonder. They are mainly rooted in the everyday crises of life. Again, most of these books lend themselves to setting up a variety of play situations – using toys, costumes and puppets – but the children also need to be involved in careful reading of the books, paying close attention to the detail and entering imagined worlds to experience the stories deeply – then talking it all through.



Peace at Last

Jill Murphy (Macmillan)

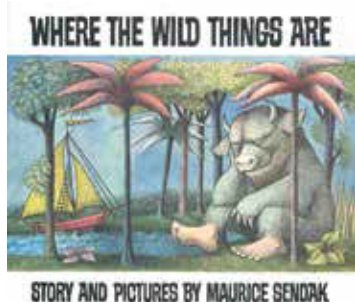
Ask the children: *What is peace?* Make a list of peaceful times (*I am peaceful when...*). You might need to explain 'snore' before reading the book! Ask: *Why can Mr Bear not sleep?* Make a list of all the noises he can hear. Turn this into a list poem and add other ideas. For example: *At night, I hear the cats fighting outside. I can hear the buses driving by. I hear the kitchen tap dripping.*



Can't You Sleep Little Bear? READ & RESPOND

Martin Waddell (Walker Books)

Follow both bears and talk about what they feel or are thinking. Ask: *Is Little Bear really trying to go to sleep? How does Big Bear comfort Little Bear?* Re-read this book many times, as it is about comfort and feeling safe. (See the *Read & Respond* title for further ideas.)



Where the Wild Things Are

Maurice Sendak (HarperCollins)

Look at the cover. Ask: *What might happen? Who is creating mischief? What really happened in Max's room that night?* Create a 'Wild Things' dance – 'be still' and then 'let the wild rumpus begin'. Make masks for the dance and music to accompany the movement. Create large monster paintings. Ask: *What are the monsters and why does Max send them to bed? What do you think his parents are like?*